to 2005, Mid-day Meal was provided to 2,98,52,000 children in Rajasthan whereas the actual number of children was not more than 150 crore;

(b) when this fact had come to the knowledge of Government;

(c) the persons found guilty in the said case and the action taken against them; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to prevent such incidents in the future?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (d) No, Sir. Government of Rajasthan has reported that sanction for providing mid-day meal to 3,25,29,380 students was received by them for the years 2002 to 2005. Out of this, the State Government actually provided mid-day meal to 2,30,65,795 students.

Rajasthan: Details of foodgrains allocated and lifted (in MTs.)

No.	Year	Food grains allocated to the State	Food grains lifted by the State
1.	2002-03	1,57,910	1,41,429
2.	2003-04	1,68,919	1,36,887
3.	2004-05	1,68,568	1,23,329
4.	2005-06	1,96,108	1,21,494

Central Government releases assistance for cooking cost only after adjusting unspent balance of the previous releases.

State Government has further reported that allocation and utilization of food grains and the number of students being benefited is monitored every month at Government level.

Schemes for backward minorities and weaker sections

†*298. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of real condition of educationally-backward Muslims and minorities;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the efforts being made by the Government for implementation of educational schemes for the benefit of educationally-backward minorities, especially of weaker sections;

(d) the success achieved in making minorities literate under such schemes; and

(e) the financial assistance provided to Non-Governmental Organisations in Uttar Pradesh by the Maulana Azad Shiksha Pratisthan during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) and (b) Government had constituted a High Level Committee to prepare a report on the social, economic and educational status of the Muslim community of India. The report of the Committee has been tabled in the Rajya Sabha on 30th November, 2006. It is also available in the website *www.minorityaffairs.gov.in* Chapter four of the report deals with the educational conditions of Muslims. For other minorities, the task of preparing a status report of minority communities in India has been assigned to the National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities.

(c) and (d) An important objective of the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities is to ensure that the benefits of various governmental schemes for the underprivileged reach the disadvantaged sections of the minority communities. Point No. A (1), (2) of the programme contains schemes for improving the educational opportunities available to minorities. The 15 Point Programme is also available in the website *www.minorityaffairs.gov.in*

(e) Details of the financial assistance provided to non-governmental organisations by the Maulana Azad Shiksha Pratisthan in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years are given in the Statement.

Statement

Maulana Azad Education Foundation Category-wise break-up of grant-in-aid sanctioned in U.P. during the years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07

Year	2005-2006		2006-2007		Total	
Categories	No. of NGOs	Amount in Lacs	No. of NGOs	Amount in Lacs	No. of NGOs	Amount in Lacs
Residential Schools	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Construction of Hostel Building	5	70.00	0	0.00	5	70.00
Establishing/Expansion of School/Colleges	10	82.00	2	22.00	12	104.00
Technical Education	2	24.90	0	0.00	2	24.90
Sadbhawna Kendra	3	29.37	0	0.00	3	29.37
TOTAL	20	206.27	2	22.00	22	228.27
Scholarship (##)	727	72.70	0	0.00	1179	117.90

(##) Number of Girls Students received scholarship @ Rs. 10,000/- per student.

Amendments in NCW Act

*299. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any measures are being contemplated by Government for amendments to the National Commission for Women Act;

(b) the measures taken by Government to ensure functional autonomy for NCW; and

(c) whether NCW enjoys a similar status granted to other such commissions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The National Commission for Women has been requested to examine afresh the National Commission for Women Act, 1990 with a view to suggest amendments to it, wherever necessary.

(b) As per the existing provisions of the National Commission for Women Act, 1990, the Commission has functional autonomy. As per Section 9(2) of the said Act, the Commission can regulate its own procedure and the procedure of its committees. As per Section 10 of the Act, the Commission